of the sub-sea pipeline from Iran to India.

(b) The fiscal, technical and other implications will arise only after the pre-feasibility study is completed.

(c) Efforts for developing alternative source of crude oil are made continuously keeping in view their suitability and competitiveness.

Israel's offer to process crude

774. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel has offered its spare refinery capacity to process crude on India's account;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposal; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) An Israeli oil company by the name of Oil Refineries Limited has made an offer to Indian Oil Corporation for supply of diesel (HSD) on terms to be mutually agreed upon.

(c) There is no proposal at present to purchase crude or petroleum products from Israel during 1993-94.

Reduction in outlay for ONGC

775. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total outlay for ONGC has been slashed by half;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such reduction;

(c) whether production of crude is likely to be affected by such reduction; and

(d) if so, in what manner the domestic requirement of oil is going to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Against a proposed outlay of Rs. 33,393 crores by ONGC for the 8th Plan Period, Government has approved an outlay of Rs. 17,511 crores. The reduction in outlay was necessitated due to less availability of resources at the time of making sectorwise allocation for the 8th Five Year Plan. However, it was indicated that physical programme of work and production need not be reduced as necessary funds would be made available on a year to year basis.

The original target of 180.726 MMT of crude oil production has been revised to 149.40 MMT during the 8th Plan Period mainly because of the delay in development of selected fields under JVC, rectificatory measures adopted to restore the health of the reservoirs, delay in implementation of field development projects and environmental problems in Assam.

(d) The domestic requirement of the crude oil will be met through imports to the extent of short-fall in the indigenous production against the demand.

LPG bottling plants in Bihar

776. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG bottling plants which have so far been established by various public sector oil companies in the State of Bihar and how many of them are operational with plant-wise details thereof;

(b) whether these bottling plants are sufficient to cater to the needs of the entire State;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to set up more LPG bottling plants

in Bihar in addition to the existing ones; and

(d) if answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) There are two LPG Bottling Plants in the State of Bihar, as follows:

Location	Existing Capacity (TMT per Annum)
Barauni	15
Jamshedpur	25

(b) After utilising the existing bottling capacity available in the State of Bihar, the balance packed demand is met from the LPG bottling plants located in the adjoining States.

(c) and (d) Presently there is no proposal to set up new bottling plants in Bihar. However, Oil Industry has planned to augment the bottling capacity of Jamshedpur bottling plant to 88 Thousand Metric Tonne per Annum during the 8th plan period.

Leagake in LPG cylinders

777. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many a time the LPG consumers in the capital are supplied leaking cylinders by the Indane distributors but the same are not replaced on the plea that gas has been flared;

(b) if so the number of complaints of leaking LPG cylinders received by various LPG distributors/Indian Oil Corporation during the last one year;

(c) what procedure a consumer has to follow for getting a replacement of a leaking cylinder from the distributor;

(d) whether Government are also aware that sometimes cylinders having water therein are supplied to the consumer by the LPG distributors; and

(e) if so, what are the rights of the LPG consumers in such cases and what action they may take in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However cylinders may develop leakage at a later stage. A total of 1403 suspected leakage complaints have been received during the year 1992-93 by IOC and its distributors in Delhi. All the cases were investigated and refills were supplied wherever cylinders were found leaking.

(c) to (e) As per the instructions, the deliveryman is expected to disconnect/connect and carry out pre-post delivery checks to ensure that the equipment including cylinder is in sound working condition. If the cylinder develops any defect/leakage, the customer is required to contract the distributor during the working hours, and Emergency Service cell after working hours/Sundays/Holidays. On receipt of such complaint, the distributor is expected to immediately depute a mechanic to inspect the cylinder and arrange for free replacement in case of defective leaking cylinder. LPG cylinder being filled with water at the bottling plants is ruled out since ther are various types of checks when cylinders are filled. The possibility of water getting into the cylinders is very rare. However a few complaints have been received in this regard. A customer can seek replacement of cylinder free of cost if it is established that the cylinder contains water.

Defaulting LPG dealers

778. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of LP gas dealers in the country particularly in Punjab State against whom various complaints were received during the period